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23 May 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Report of contact meeting held with AECAMBUSTA-4 by the undersigned from 1930 to 2100 hours on 19 May 1958 in the dining room of the Governor Clinton Hotel, New York City, N.Y.

A. Topics of interest covered were as follows:

1. The BHR will split from the PARIS BLOC and the American Committee of Liberation upon AECAMBUSTA-4's return to Paris, France.
2. KUNNEBOM of the American Committee of Liberation is cognizant that AECAMBUSTA-4 is in the United States to campaign for further subsidy of the Byelorussian newspaper "Batkavshchina."
3. The chartering of the Byelorussian non-profit organization.
4. Subsidy of the BATKAVSHCHINA.
5. ARCHIMED FINOWSKI of the Byelorussian Orthodox Church, possible RIS agent, and his workings in the U.S.
6. A proposed project to exfiltrate either TANK and his family or PUSHA or both from Byelorussia.
7. LYSABORSKI letters now considered not to be RIS.
8. Subject's concern over family and situation in France - his plans for the future.
9. List of candidates for VOA Byelorussian Section.
10. Subject leaving for his home in Paris, France, on the 21st of May aboard the LIBERTY.

B. Extension of the topics above mentioned is as follows:

1. Subject said that he has become completely disillusioned and disappointed with the American Committee of Liberation and the Paris Bloc. He said that he had been in a final session for approximately 5 hours, prior to the meeting with the undersigned, with various members of the American Committee and achieved absolutely nothing. His attempts to have the American Committee defray some of the expenses attendant upon his stay and work here in the United States met with disapproval and still worse, not only was he denied funds but was asked to contribute to the American Committee. Subject said that he has the feeling that many of the people concerned with that Committee have no desire to achieve anything except

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the realization of their own material dreams. One interview, the Subject says, was spent in listening to a Committee member discuss plans for a farm which he desires to purchase. Subject says that this, two days before his departure from the United States, with many things still unsettled, was pure waste of precious time. Subject states that he has not with no success, nor does any seem possible in the future, with the American Committee and for this reason he has decided that as soon as he returns and can arrive in Munich, Germany, he will press that the EHR sever relationships with the Paris Bloc and the American Committee of Liberation.

2. Subject stated to the undersigned that he talked with a person named KUBERKIN at the American Committee. KUBERKIN perused Subject's request for funds to defray his expenses while in the United States, by telling Subject (ARCHIBOLD-4) that he, KUBERKIN, was well aware that the purpose of Subject's trip to the United States was for the purpose of gaining extension of the subsidy for the Byelorussian newspaper "PRAVA BIELORUSII" and not purely for Paris Bloc matters. Subject was quite concerned, as is the undersigned, as to the means by which KUBERKIN became cognizant of this supposedly restricted information. Subject says this means a leak in our organization since only a limited number of persons was to be witting. Comments of the undersigned: If Subject feels that we are not capable of security to the limited extent necessary to conceal the true reasons for his trip and if this "leakiness" was evidenced to him in the past, then it is no wonder that he is reluctant to inform the undersigned of such matters as his competition among members of the U. S. Congress to gain the Byelorussian representation on the Volcos of America.]

3. Subject informed the undersigned that the task of chartering the non-credit Byelorussian organization is proceeding satisfactorily via the [redacted] Law Firm, [redacted] formerly of the Agency Legal Staff, now supplied by [redacted] of the Office of Counsel General, and that the chartering should be completed in another month. The process for obtaining tax-exemption will take a bit longer but this will not interfere with the funding of the benefit money.

b. ARCHIBOLD-4, once again asked the undersigned if there was any last word, prior to his departure, concerning the subsidy of the "PRAVA BIELORUSII". The undersigned could only reply as he has done for the past two months that the subsidy is being acted upon but that no decision has been reached. Subject was notably disappointed at this.

5. According to the Subject, Archibald Vesili FIMOVSKI of the Byelorussian Orthodox Church is present in the United States making a tour of various Byelorussian centers for the purpose of campaigning for funds. Subject says that the Archibald has a record of collaboration with the Gestapo during the Second World War and of subsequent dealings, unpurged, with the Soviets. The newspaper run by KUBERA has published accounts of the Archibald's trip and also of the amounts he has collected. Subject says the amount of the money collected is pure falsehood. In one instance a

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family that no one can locate was supposed to have made a \$750.00 donation. Of this, \$500 was donated by the husband and \$250 was donated by the wife. Subject says he knows the Byelorussian people and that the Byelorussians know the Archimed and his past history of collaboration and debauchery and that no Byelorussian would donate any money to a fund with which the Archimed was connected. Subject says that the Archimed's debauchery, citing one particular instance concerning a woman who had inadvertently forgotten her jewelry in the Archimed's rooms at a hotel in Nice and whose jewelry was forwarded to her husband by mistake, is the KIS control factor over the Archimed. Subject claims that the Archimed is in the United States not to collect money but possibly to pay it out and that the campaign for funds is a cover story to explain large sums of money in his possession.

6. The topic of REDSOX/REDSKIN operations was brought up by the undersigned inasmuch as it had been discussed in previous meetings. The Subject agreed to abide by the decisions made previously by [] and the undersigned as to spotting, recruiting and operations into Byelorussia. [] will be the only person in the AEGAMBISTA organization who is to be cognizant of actual US/BNR collaboration in operations into Byelorussia. The discussion was originally concerned with operations into Byelorussia to organize local intelligence-gathering nets and also to attempt a contact with the underground to be utilized to establish bona fides for members of the AEDPOT (previously AEREADY) program in the event of a hot war. The undersigned ventured the previously much discussed subject of exfiltration and asked of the Subject if in his opinion this was still feasible. Subject said this was still a possibility and worth the risk if one could exfiltrate an important personage. The undersigned mentioned that at one time it had been rumored that Stalin's son wanted to defect to the West but could not exfiltrate [this appeared in either ARGOZY or TRUE magazine]. Subject replied that Stalin's son, Vasili, would hardly be worth the effort but that if we were to exfiltrate someone like TANK, the great poet and writer, whom the Soviets and the people of Byelorussia consider equivalent to Schiller and Goethe, then we would have the propaganda scoop of the decade, if not of the century. TANK has been much decorated by the Soviets but he is neither pro-Soviet nor pro-communist. He has written many articles which were not to the liking of the Soviets and for this reason has fallen somewhat out of favor. At the present he is doing translations of works acceptable to Soviets in order to make a living and also to preclude endangering the lives of his wife and children. PUSHKA is equally famous as a writer, although not quite of the caliber of TANK. Further, PUSHKA has recently been released from jail after serving a sentence for his political writings which were not to the liking of the Soviets. AEGAMBISTA-4 says either of these men, were they to make their way to the West, would be worth untold millions to our propaganda effort. Both of these men have the capability of writing in such a fashion as to sway the minds of any peoples. The possibility of an exfiltration attempt was pursued further with the Subject; during this the Subject stated that TANK has been to POLAND and that he evidently has that degree of freedom of movement. The project as it is envisioned in its embryonic state would utilize the Byelorussian traveler coming from Poland in July 1958,

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to visit an ailing brother in New Jersey, as the contact man. Upon his return to Poland, the Byelorussian traveler would contact both TANK and PUSHEKA and query each as to his desire for emigration to the West. The results of this contact could be forwarded by the traveler via simple open code to a third brother now residing in Cleveland, Ohio. [The exfiltration from POLAND remains to be finalized and will require sessions with EE/P. The possibility also exists of using [] to buy TANK and PUSHEKA out of Poland via having his uncle, who has connections with the UB, bribe the NAWROT brothers, as he has already done, to effect the escape -- this exfiltration shall be written up as a Project Memo, to be kicked around and cross-pollinated.]

7. The letters from LYSAHORSKI to ADAMOVICH, which have been mailed from Denmark, Germany and Poland, are now considered by the Subject, by ADAMOVICH and by other members of the CAMBISTA organization, to be genuine and not RIS provocation. Subject states that the reason for this is that all of the information contained in these letters has been proven by time to be correct. Other sources have corroborated the information. Subject has asked the undersigned to forward the original letter to [] who will then forward it to ADAMOVICH. The LYSAHORSKI letters were to have been utilized by this section as the nucleus for a project, assuming of course, that this was not an RIS provocation attempt. In the event further developments pointed to RIS, then the letters were to become the basis for a CE project and turned over to SE/CE. The original shall be forwarded. Copies of the letters, however, shall remain in the files of this section for possible utilization as explained above.

8. Subject is greatly concerned over the safety of his family in view of the current situation in France. He is living in a suburb of Paris that is noted for its communist elements and while they do not know his true workings and political leanings, Subject feels that if the Soviets so wished it, he could be set upon and perhaps assassinated with his family during a period of mob violence. He has suggested that he might possibly send his wife and son to friends in England until the situation improves, while he, himself, remains in Paris. The undersigned counseled Subject that he should, in the event of imminent danger, communicate with his [] contact in the Paris Embassy and seek assistance. Subject stated that he feels that it is no longer advantageous to himself, the ENR or to the independence movement to remain in France. He is, therefore, pushing [] to do all that is possible to have a private bill introduced in congress to permit him to emigrate to the United States.

9. Subject has transferred to the undersigned, via [] a list of persons to be candidates for the Byelorussian Section of the Voice of America. This list shall remain in the files of this section unless interest is evinced by some other Agency component.

10. The undersigned had a bon voyage drink with the Subject and after wishing him a pleasant journey home on the LIBERTE (sailing 21 May), the meeting was terminated.

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